Effect of Gatt Agreement on Research and Development

617. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of CHEMICAL & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after signing of the GATT Agreement, the pipeline of new research products will dry up in the country and the country will be facing a major challenge; and

(b) if so, whether Government plans to take up any urgent measures to encourage R&D efforts, including basic research?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) & (b) The Agreement does not, in any way, restrict the opportunities for research and development by the Indian manufacturers to develop new processes for drugs for which patent applications had been filed before 1.1.1995. The Agreement further provides a transition period of 10 years w.e.f. 1.1.1995 to countries like India to delay the application of the provisions on product patent perotection to areas of technology not so protectable in their territories on 1.1.1995.

Various measures have been taken by the Government from time to time to encourage R&D in the pharmaceutical sector. The modifications in the Drug Policy, 1986 announced in September, 1994 outlines further measures to encourage R&D.

Allotment of DDA Houses to Burma Repatriates/Migrants

618. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 629 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th May, 1995 and state:

(a) whether Government have handed over the case of allotment of DDA's houses to Burma repatriates/migrants to CBI, or taken any other corrective measure;

(b) what is the present position of the case;

(c) have the houses sold/transferred in violation of the lease terms been resumed; and

(d) if not, why?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) No, Sir. DDA has reported that no case of violation of terms and conditions of allotment has come to their notice.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) and (b) above.

Controversy on Renewal of Mining Lease in Orissa

619. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether renewal of a mining lease of Chrome Plant at Bamni In Orissa has erupted into a controversy as reported in the 'Hindustan Times', New Delhi dated 13th July, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts of the case; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by